## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS SAN ANTONIO DIVISION

| MALIBU MEDIA, LLC,           | )   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Plaintiff,                   | ) Civil Action Case No.5:19-cv-00834<br>) DAE |
| v.                           | )   |
| JOHN DOE, infringer using IP | )   |
| address 70.121.72.191,       | )   |
| Defendant.                   | )   |
|                              |   |

# PLAINTIFF/COUNTER-DEFENDANT'S ANSWER TO DEFENDANT'S FIRST AMENDED COUNTERCLAIMS

## **PARTIES**

- 95. Admitted.
- 96. Admitted.

# **JURISDICTION**

- 97. Admitted.
- 98. Admitted.
- 99. Admitted.

#### **FACTS**

- 100. Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant admits that it offers a subscription service to members for access to the content it produces.
- 101. Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant does not dispute that free pornographic material is available in the Internet. Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant lacks sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations in Paragraph 101 of the Defendant's Answer.

- 102. Denied.
- 103. Denied.
- 104. Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant does not dispute that infringement of its copyrights occurs soon after the works are published.
- 105. Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant does not dispute that it has hired the consulting firm, IPP, to act on Plaintiff's behalf to track and record instances of infringement of its copyrights. Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant denies that IPP connects to networks controlled and operated by members of the public, and accesses their private computer data.
- 106. Admitted to the extent that such members of the public are not subscribers to Plaintiff's website. Denied as to the remaining allegations.
- 107. Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant lacks sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 107 of the Answer, and therefore denies the same. Plaintiff-Counter-Defendant does not instruct IPP on its methods of detection or recording of instances of copyright infringement.
- 108. Plaintiff admits that it uses the information provided by IPP, including IP addresses being used to infringe its copyrighted films, for purposes of enforcing its copyrights.
- 109. Admitted to the extent that pieces of data sent from an IP address to IPP are used as a basis for bringing a copyright infringement suit against infringers. Denied as to the remaining allegations.
- 110. Admitted that IP addresses can be used to identify a subscriber of Internet service.
  Denied as to the remaining allegations.
- 111. Denied.

| 112.   | Admitted that Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant seeks redress from those who infringe      |
|--|--|
| its copyrighted materials. Denied as to the remaining allegations. |  |
| 113.   | Denied.  |
| 114.   | Denied.  |
| 115.   | Denied.  |
| 116.   | Denied.  |
| 117.   | Denied.  |
| 118.   | Plaintiff admits its claims for copyright infringement are supported by evidence     |
| referenced in the Complaint.                                       |  |
| 119.   | Plaintiff admits discovery was served on the Defendant and that its expert holds     |
| relevant evidence.   |  |
| 120.   | Plaintiff lacks sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth |
|  | of the allegations in Paragraph 120 of the Answer, and therefore denies the same.    |
| 121.   | Denied.  |
| 122.   | Plaintiff admits that Defendant filed a motion to compel. Plaintiff denies the       |
|  | remainder of the allegations.  |
| 123.   | Denied.  |
| 124.   | Denied.  |
| COUNT ONE (Declaratory Judgment of Non-Infringement)               |  |
| 125.   | Malibu Media incorporates its responses to Paragraphs 95-124 as if fully set forth.  |
| 126  | Admitted   |

127. Denied.

- 128. Admitted that internet service providers assign IP addresses. Plaintiff lacks sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations in Paragraph 128 of the Answer, and therefore denies the same.
- 129. Denied
- 130. Admitted that Plaintiff brought a cause of action against Defendant within the statute of limitations period. Denied as to the remaining allegations.
- 131. Denied.

By Order dated July 7, 2021, DKT # 97, the Court granted Malibu Media's motion for summary judgment on Count Two and Count Three set for the in the following paragraphs 132-153. By Order dated August 31, 2021, DKT # 108, the Court denied Defendant's Motion for Partial Reconsideration of the Order granting summary judgment. Accordingly, the allegations of paragraphs 132-153 were dismissed on summary judgment. Therefore, no response is required. However, out of abundance of caution Malibu Media repeats its previous responses to the allegations of paragraphs 132-153 as follows:

#### **COUNT TWO (Abuse of Process)**

- 132. Plaintiff incorporates its responses to Paragraphs 95-131 as if fully set forth herein.
- 133. Plaintiff admits that some courts have held that an IP address, alone may not identify an actual infringer.
- 134. Denied.
- 135. Denied.

- 136. Plaintiff admits that it filed its Complaint almost two years from the latest date of the first alleged infringement but denies the remaining allegations. Plaintiff further avers that only seeks remedies for the infringement of its copyrights against Defendants who are habitual infringers as evidenced by the number of titles downloaded via BitTorrent.
- 137. Denied.
- 138. Denied.
- 139. Plaintiff admits that "savvy" IT professionals against whom it seeks redress routinely employ tactics and methods aimed at hiding their infringing activity online. Plaintiff denies the remaining of the allegations.
- 140. Denied.
- 141. Denied.
- 142. Denied.
- 143. Denied.
- 144. Denied.
- 145. Denied.
- 146. Denied.

# **COUNT THREE (Harmful Access by Computer)**

- 147. Plaintiff incorporates its responses to Paragraphs 95-146 as if fully set forth herein.
- 148. Denied.
- 149. Denied.
- 150. Denied.

151. Denied.

152. Denied.

153. Denied.

Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant demands a jury on all issues triable by jury.

Dated: October 8, 2021 Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Paul S. Beik

PAUL S. BEIK

Texas Bar No. 24054444 S.D. Tex. ID No. 642213 BEIK LAW FIRM, PLLC

8100 Washington Ave., Suite 1000

Houston, TX 77007 T: 713-869-6975 F: 713-868-2262

E-mail: <a href="mailto:paul@beiklaw.com">paul@beiklaw.com</a>

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that, on October 8, 2021, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court using CM/ECF and that service was perfected on all counsel of record and interested parties through this system.

By: /s/ Paul S. Beik
PAUL S. BEIK